(c) whether it would be taken up during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c); A survey was carried out for Khurda Road-Balangir (289 km.) new BG railway line in 1986. The project was then estimated to cost Rs. 209 crores with 1% return on investment. An alternative alignment via Phulbani was also surveyed but the same was found very costly and with steeper gradients and as such could not be considered.

The Planning Commission had decided that the project be referred to the Working Group on Railway's *Programmes for the Eighth Five Year* Plan. However, the sub-group for new lines had not identified any particular new line project for inclusion in the Eighth Plan document for consideration of the Working Group but had only included a lumpsum kilometrage for new starts. Taking up of Khurda-Balangir project would depend on availability of resources in the Eighth Plan, and the position this project will get in the overall national priorities.

Supply of potable water in problem villages of Orissa

546. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the problem villages in Orissa as on 1st Aril, 1990;

(b) whether Government have formulated any scheme to ensure potable drinking water to those villages;

(c) if so, by when all the problem villages in Orissa are likely to be provided with potable drinking water;

(d) the achievement expected to be made by the 31st March, 1991; and

(e) the scheme drawn up for the 8th Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA): (a) to (e) Only 1320 problem villages remained to be covered as on 1-4-90. All other villages have been fully or partially covered. All these left over problem villages are to covered by 31-3-91. Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) allocation for Orissa during 1990-91 is Rs. 12.06 crores against which Rs. 6.02 crores has already been released. Last **Year's** arrear of Rs. 6.334 crores has also been released over and above this amount. Under the Mini Mission, Koraput and Phulbani districts have been released Rs. 0.50 crores and Rs. 1.63 crores respectively.

Indo-USSR Cooperation for promotion of Agriculture

547. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking any steps to promote agriculture in the country with the co-operation of the USSR;

(b) whether any progress has been made for setting up of joint ventures by both the countries in the field of agriculture;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether any action plan has been drawn up for the 1990-91 financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. An Indo-Soviet Working Group for Cooperation in the field of Agriculture has been set-up with the responsibility of overseeing cooperation between the two countries. The Working Group held its 3rd meeting in Moscow from 24-31 May, 1990.

(b) and (c): The Working Group in its meeting reviewed the progress made in

the establishment of joint ventures between the USSR and the Indian organisations in the fields of processing tropical fruits, meat processing, citric acid, castor oil and detoxication of castor seed cakes, essential oil etc.

(d) During the Working Group meeting, the Work Plan of Cooperation for the years 1990 and 1991 providing for exchange of visits by scientists and experts, holding of workshops and seminars, supply of hyprids, exchange of farmers, transfer of technologies for agricultural crops, plant genetic resources, bio-technology in plant and animal husbandry, reclamation of saline soils, biological control of pests and insects etc. has been drawn up.

Sabotaging of NDDB's scheme to control prices of edible oils.

548. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared on p. 16 cols. 5-7, of the Hindustan Times dated the 9th June, 1990, under the caption 'High level lobbies move to sabotage NDDB move', according to which NDDB's scheme to ensure reasonable prices for consumers and remunerative prices for growers of oilseeds is sought to be sabotaged by vested interests; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the terms for Market Intervention in edible oils and oilseed, NDDB which has been appointed as the Market Intervention Agency, has been given full functional autonomy to achieve the objectives of the market intervention operations. The NDDB were given an allocation of 50,000 tonnes of imported palmolein for market intervention operations during 1989-90. In addition, a further allocation of one lakh tonnes of imported palmolein is being made against exports of milk powder and milk products by NDDB and this additional import will greatly assist the market intervention operations in combating the price increase in edible oils.

सरकारी आवास समितियों को आबंटित की गई भूमि की दरें

549. **श्री अनंत राम जायसवाल:** क्या **शहरी विकास मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण विभिन्न सहकारी आवास समितियों को "न लाभ न हानि" के आधार पर भूमि आबंटित करता है यदि हां, तो 15 जून, 1990 से पूर्व ऐसी भूमि की दर 1375 रूपये प्रति वर्गमीटर होने के क्या कारण हैं;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण द्वारा उपयुक्त में दी 15 जून या उसके आस-पास 400 रूपये प्रति वर्ग मीटर कमी के बावजूद अभी भी इस दर में लाभ का अंश सम्मिलित है, यदि हां, तो लाभांश की मात्रा कितनी है;

(ग) दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण के अधीन 15 जून को अलग-अलग स्थानों पर विकास किए जाने के लिए उपलब्ध भूमि का ब्यौरा क्या है और उक्त भूमि के कब तक विकसित किए जाने और आवास समितियों को दे दिये जाने की संभावना है; और

(घ) इस संबंध में प्रति वर्गमीटर विकास शुल्क की दर तथा अन्य ब्यौरा क्या है; और क्या प्रति वर्गमीटर भूमि की दर में 475/- रूपये तक कमी करने में कोई कठिनाई है, यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है?

शहरी विकास मंत्री (श्री मुरासोली मारन): (क) से (घ): सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है तथा सभा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी।